

Message Text

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12

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 IO-13

DPW-01 AID-20 EA-11 EUR-25 RSR-01 /152 W

----- 096602

R 310543Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 258

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ISLAMABAD 6110

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PK, IN, BG

SUBJ: INDO-PAK TALKS: CONVERSATION WITH MEMBERS OF INDIAN
DELEGATION

SUMMARY: MEMBER OF INDIAN DELEGATION TOLD EMBOFF THAT
VIRTUALLY NO PROGRESS MADE SO FAR IN INDO-PAK RAWALPINDI
TALKS, WITH GOP REFUSING MODIFY STAND ON POWS, WAR CRIMES
TRIALS, AND RECOGNITION BANGLADESH. IN RESPONSE HIS
QUERIES, EMBOFF SAID HE FELT WAR CRIMES TRIALS MOST
THORNY ISSUE TO PAKS, THAT CONCERN OVER SITUATION IN
BALUCHISTAN EXAGGERATED, AND THAT PAKS STILL
ENJOYED FULL SUPPORT OF CHINA. END SUMMARY

1. NURIESH DAYYAL, MEMBER OF INDIAN DELEGATION,
EVENING OF JULY 29 PAID CALL OF EMBOFF WHOM HE HAD KNOWN
WHILE POSTED IN ISLAMABAD PRIOR 1971 WAR. IN COURSE OF
CONVERSATION, DAYYAL SAID THAT VIRTUALLY NO PROGRESS HAD
SO FAR BEEN MADE DURING DISCUSSIONS ON SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES.

PAKS HAD CONTINUED REFUSE TO MODIFY STAND ON POWS, WAR

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CRIMES TRIALS AND RECOGNITION BANGLADESH, HE SAID. NOR

HAD ANY PROGRESS BEEN MADE ON SUBSIDIARY ISSUES SUCH AS TRADE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC., BECAUSE PAKS INSIST THAT KEY ISSUES BE SOLVED FIRST.

2. AFTER HIS OPENING COMMENTS, DAYYAL ASKED SEVERAL PROBING QUESTIONS OF EMBOFF. (SINCE HE HAD JUST COME FROM HOME OF AUSTRIAN EMBOFF, APPEARS HE WAS ATTEMPTING COME UP WITH CONSENSUS OF VIEWS FROM LOCAL DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY). FIRST QUESTION CONCERNED BHUTTO GOVERNMENT'S POLICY ON POWS. EMBOFF COMMENTED THAT THERE WERE CONTINUING DEMANDS FOR POW RELEASE AMONG RANK AND FILE BUT VIEWS BECAME SOMEWHAT MORE AMBIVALENT AT HIGHER LEVELS. SENIOR MILITARY OFFICERS TENDED VIEW POWS AS CASUALTIES OF WAR WHO, IF THEY WERE TO BE RETURNED, SHOULD BE REPATRIATED WITHOUT CONCESSIONS ON PART OF PAKISTAN. SOME SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, HE ADDED, SEE POW ISSUE AS GIVING PAKS WEAPON TO USE AGAINST INDIA INTERNATIONALLY. EMBOFF WRYLY SUGGESTED THAT INDIANS WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER OFF HAD THEY JUST MARCHED POWS TO BORDER AND RELEASED THEM. DAYYAL REPLIED "DON'T THINK THAT JUST THAT HASN'T BEEN SUGGESTED".

3. DAYYAL THEN ASKED ABOUT WAR CRIMES TRIALS, POINTING OUT THAT THEY WERE NOW FACT OF LIFE. EMBOFF REPLIED THAT HE THOUGHT WAR CRIMES TRIALS MOST THORNY ISSUE OF ALL AND THAT TRIALS WOULD CERTAINLY BE FOLLOWED BY TRIALS OF SENIOR BENGALLEES IN PAKISTAN. EMBOFF ASKED IF THERE WERE CHANCE THAT FORMULA COULD BE DEVISED WHEREBY PAKS PUT ON TRIAL COULD BE ASSURED OF THEIR SUBSEQUENT RETURN TO PAKISTAN. DAYYAL REPLIED THAT GOI WAS WORKING ON THIS PROBLEM AND HE THOUGHT FORMULA WOULD BE DEVISED.

4. DAYYAL ALSO ASKED ABOUT STABILITY OF BHUTTO GOVERNMENT WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON IRANIAN/PAK COOPERATION IN BALUCHISTAN. EMBOFF REPLIED THAT, ALTHOUGH COUP IN AFGHANISTAN HAS CAUSED GOP TO SHOW INCREASING CONCERN TOWARDS BALUCHISTAN, HE FELT WORRY OVER BALUCHISTAN SOMEWHAT OVERSTATED IN THAT BALUCHISTAN WAS STILL TRIBAL SOCIETY AND BHUTTO HAD CONSIDERABLE ROOM FOR MANEUVER IN PLAYING ONE TRIBAL LEADER OFF AGAINST OTHER. HE FELT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DAUD RETURN TO POWER WAS OF BROADER CONCERN TO PAKS THAN ITS POSSIBLE EFFECT ON SITUATION IN BALUCHISTAN. MANY PAKS TENDED BELIEVE THAT DAUD COUP WAS BROUGHT ABOUT BY ACTIVE COLLABORATION OF USSR AND INDIA.

5. DAYYAL'S FINAL QUESTION WAS WHETHER CHINESE POLICY TOWARD PAKISTAN WAS CHANGING PERCEPTIBLY. EMBOFF SAID HE FELT PERSONALLY THAT, WHILE LOSS OF EAST PAKISTAN

HAD INEVITABLY DIMINISHED PAKISTAN SOMEWHAT IN CHINESE
EYES, LATTER WOULD STILL BE EXTREMELY SENSITIVE TOWARD
ANY INDICATIONS OF PAKISTAN COMING UNDER SOVIET INFLUENCE
OR DOMINATION. DAUD'S RETURN TO POWER IN AFGHANISTAN
MIGHT FURTHER HEIGHTEN THIS SENSITIVITY. FOR FORESEEABLE
FUTURE, HE BELIEVED PAKS COULD COUNT ON STRONG CHINESE
BACKING.
SOBER

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